

Sustainable Monocacy Commission meeting

Video meeting

Thursday, February 17, 2022

Members present: Charles Eirkson, Lonnie Ropp, Andy Celmer, Matt Moran, Peter Sicilia, Councilmember Jerry Donald

Members absent: Gary Magnuson, Kim Stewart, Bill Allen, Glenn Dunham

County Staff: Tim Goodfellow

Guest Speakers: Don Dorsey, Frederick County Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources

Vice-Chair Lonnie Ropp called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Don Dorsey, Project Manager from the County's Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources spoke about the County's stormwater permit, also known as the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4). Don showed a powerpoint and started with history of water protection regulations, and then discussed how the Clean Water Act 'trickles' down to the State and local level for implementation. Components and requirements of the County's MS4 permit were presented. Don showed examples of projects, techniques, strategies, and actions that the County uses to comply with the MS4 permit and meet the sediment and nutrient reduction requirements for developed lands.

Andy motioned to approve February 2022 meeting minutes. Charles second motioned with slight revision—to remove the references to 'primarily road-side' in the paragraph describing the clean up event. Andy accepted revision. Unanimous approval of February 2022 meeting minutes with change.

Matt displayed the latest version of the SMC logo. The group was very appreciative of Matt's work and supported the logo. Matt stated that he was going to add the word 'River' to the logo and re-position the title around the perimeter of the logo.

Tim asked the group to continue reviewing the preliminary list of action items for the SMC and stated that the work plan would be fully discussed at the March meeting, which would give absent SMC members opportunity to participate in the discussion. Andy asked for a list of the action items included in the 2021 Climate Response and Resilience report be distributed to SMC members.

Tim stated that some SMC members are working to have additional experts brief the SMC on a variety of water quality, River, or watershed issues. Tim asked if there were specific topical areas the SMC wanted to learn more about. Lonnie talked about the agricultural sector and asked how their pollutant loads are measured, as well as wastewater treatment plants. Tim offered to give a briefing on the status of the County's (and municipalities) water supply and wastewater treatment systems.

The river clean up event was discussed---locations, dates, and other access issues were raised. The County's 'Adopt-A-Road' program is another permanent program that the SMC could consider for a long-term clean up program. The date of Saturday, May 14 was selected for a public clean up event, with Saturday, May 21 as a rain-date. Publication on the web site and other county social media will be made.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13pm.

Submitted by Tim Goodfellow